

To: ORD-Exec-Council-Directors[Execcouncildirectors@epa.gov]; ORD-Mgmt-Council[ORDMgmtCouncil@epa.gov]
Cc: ORD-IOAA-Front Office Support[ORDIOAASUPPORT@epa.gov]; D'Amico, Louis[DAmico.Louis@epa.gov]
From: Bahadori, Tina
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NCEA 30 Day Outlook 11-1-2017.docx

**National Center for Environmental Assessment
Weekly Report for November 1st, 2017**

Notables listed below and 30-day Outlook attached.

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

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National Atmospheric Deposition Program annual meeting. On October 30th - November 3rd, Christopher Clark will be leading two workshops at the National Atmospheric Deposition Program's annual meeting in San Diego, CA. The workshops are under the Critical Loads of Atmospheric Deposition Working Group, with participation from EPA, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, academics, and industry, focusing on characterizing uncertainty of critical loads, and on synthesizing critical loads to support air quality decision making.

Presentation on Exposure Factors and Food Consumption Calculator. On November 1st-2nd, Linda Phillips will be an invited speaker at the 2017 annual conference of the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (JIFSAN) in Greenbelt, MD. The conference title is "Foodrisk.org – Risk Analysis Tools and Data – A Guided Tour by Tool Creators." Linda will speak about EPA's Exposure Factors Handbook and the use of JIFSAN's Food Commodity Intake Database (FCID) Consumption Calculator.

American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting Presentation. On November 6th, Janet Gamble will present at the APHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta on "Warming temperatures and the incidence of violent crime: A multi-city study of the United States." This analysis focuses on the observed relationships between exposure to ambient temperatures and the rate of aggravated crimes (aggravated assault, robbery, rape and homicide) in 6 U.S. cities (Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Houston).

Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society's Fall Meeting. On November 7th, Ingrid Druwe and Allen Davis have been invited to give a presentation at the Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society's (GEMS- <http://www.gems-nc.org/>) Fall Meeting in RTP, NC. The meeting's focus will be Human Genetic Susceptibility and the presentation Dr. Druwe and Mr. Davis will provide will cover a method for calculating population attributable risk based on single nucleotide polymorphisms and the susceptibility they confer to particular diseases. Additionally, Dr. Druwe will give a talk on "How Data Science Can Inform Environmental Justice and Community Risk Screening of Genetic Susceptibility."

Central Chemical Superfund Site Meeting. On November 8th, Malcolm Field will travel to Philadelphia to participate in a meeting in regard to the Central Chemical Site Probable Responsible Parties (PRPs) request for a Technical Impracticability (TI) determination for the site. A TI determination is a consideration that is sometimes approved at some Superfund sites in which the underlying hydrogeology and/or groundwater contamination are so complex that site remediation is deemed to be impracticable.

Missouri Headwaters Basin Task Force Meeting. On November 8th -9th, Laurie Alexander will be attending the Missouri Headwaters Basin Task Force Meeting in Bozeman, Montana. This task force is part of the National Drought Resilience Partnership, a collaborative of federal and state agencies, non-governmental organizations, and watershed stakeholders working together to leverage and deliver technical and financial resources to help address drought in the Missouri Headwaters Basin (MHB).

Missoula City-County Health Department Support. Jason Sacks along with colleagues in OAQPS (Susan Stone), NHEERL (Wayne Cascio), and Region 8 (Ethan Brown) will provide scientific and technical expertise to Sarah Coefield an Air Quality Specialist for the Missoula City-County Health Department in Missoula, MT on the potential health implications of sub-chronic exposures as well as sub-daily exposures (i.e., 1-3 hours) to PM2.5 from wildfire smoke to ensure the proper health messaging is being provided to Missoula County residents in response to wildfire smoke.

"Cumulative Exposures, Social Determinants, and Health in Philadelphia" Facilitated Dialogue. Jen Richmond-Bryant participated in a Social-Environmental Science Exchange facilitated dialogue on the "Cumulative Exposures, Social Determinants, and Health in Philadelphia" collaboration between HHRA and EPA Region 3. The purpose of the facilitated dialogue process is to learn from social science experts how to extend our project from a

quantitative study to glean insights on why exposure risks exist. The facilitated dialogue began on October 26th and will extend through mid-November.

Jiangsu China Environmental Protection Bureau and Duke University Meeting. John Vandenberg was asked by researchers at the Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University, to meet with visitors from the Jiangsu China Environmental Protection Bureau. Jiangsu province has a significant ozone pollution problem and the Duke researchers have collaborated with Chinese colleagues to develop the Regional Ozone Sino-U.S. Collaborative Research Center. John will review evidence of ozone effects represented in the Integrated Science Assessment for ozone and participate in discussions.

WITHIN EPA

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Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) Support. OAQPS has requested assistance from NCEA in preparing responses to comments received on the proposed rulemaking for the Primary NO₂ NAAQS. These comments were received during the 60 day public comment period (closed September 25, 2017) following the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for Oxides of Nitrogen which was signed by the Administrator on July 14, 2017. NCEA scientists will be providing input to OAQPS by Friday, November 3, 2017. The Final Rule signature deadline is April 6, 2018.

Updates to the Sulfur Oxides (Sox) Integrated Science Assessment (ISA) Draft. Members of the Sox ISA team have been finalizing revisions to the second draft SOx ISA in response to comments from the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee and the public. The final SOx ISA is scheduled to be released in early December 2017 in accordance with a court-ordered deadline.

OTHER RECENT ACTIVITIES

OPPT TSCA Support. On October 30th, Laura Dishaw and April Luke were asked to apply the TSCA Study Quality Tool provided by OPPT to key studies from the IRIS assessment for HBCD.

Additional PFA's Related Activities:

●■■■■■■■■■ **National Institutes of Health Support.** Erin Hines provided feedback to NIH Superfund grantees on study design and emerging/new poly fluorinated compounds to include in their NIH-funded project Sources, Transport, Exposure and Effects of PFASs (STEEP). https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/srp/programs/Program_detail.cfm?Project_ID=P42ES027706.

●■■■■■■■■■ **Ottawa Department of the Interior's Meeting.** Erin Hines spoke with Ottawa Department of the Interior's Satish Deshpande about the water PFAS Drinking Water standard that Ottawa is working to develop.

●■■■■■■■■■ **NHERRL Support.** Erin Hines provided feedback to NHERRL fish researcher Tamara Tal on study design for assays of poly fluorinated chemicals and developmental outcomes in fish.

OTHER RECETAirNOW Website Support. On October 17th-24th, NCEA scientists provided scientific and technical support to Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) on a redesign mockup of the AirNOW website.

Office of Transportation and Air Quality Support. On October 27th, Jason Sacks provided technical and scientific support to the Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) in OAR on responses to a reporter from grist.org on the current status of diesel engine exhaust activities at the Agency. This inquiry is focusing on whether the Agency is taking actions in response to the 2015 recommendations of the Health Effects Institute (HEI) Diesel Epidemiology Panel with respect to the use of recent diesel engine exhaust epidemiology studies for the purposes of conducting a quantitative risk assessment.

Department of Defense Support. On October 24th-26th, Brooke Hemming, as a continuing member of the technical committee overseeing the Department of Defense Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program/Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (SERDP/ESTCP), participated in the Fall program In-Progress Review (IPR).

Reproductive and Developmental Toxicity HESI Technical Committee: On October 26th, Susan Makris (NCEA-W) will co-chair and participate in an ILSI Health and Environmental Science Institute (HESI) Developmental and Reproductive Toxicity (DART) Technical Committee meeting in Washington, D.C. At this meeting, HESI DART members will engage in project update and planning activities.

World Health Organization (WHO) Support. Tom Luben provided technical support to the WHO Guidelines Review Committee Secretariat, helping to characterize the methods NCEA uses in hazard identification and/or risk assessment of environmental exposures, particularly related to the Integrated Science Assessments. This work will help inform the development of future guidance and more standardized tools for conducting hazard identification and risk assessment.

PRODUCTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Enzyme Development and Assessing Childhood Risk. Sury Vulimiri along with Yu-Sheng Lin (NCEA) and Bob Sonawane (former NCEA employee) published a paper titled “*A Framework and Case Studies for Evaluation of Enzyme Ontogeny in Children’s Health Risk Evaluation*” published in Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health, Part A (Ginsberg et al. 2017, 80 (10-12): 1-25.

Origin of Brackish Groundwater in the Shabestar Plain Aquifer. The manuscript, “*Hydrogeological and Geochemical Evidence for the Origin of Brackish Groundwater in the Shabestar Plain Aquifer, Northwest Iran,*” co-authored by Malcolm Field has just been published in the journal Sustainable Water Resources Management.

A Weight of Evidence Framework for Ecological Assessments: Inferring Qualities. Suter, GW, SM Cormier, and M Barron. 2017. A Weight of Evidence Framework for Ecological Assessments: Inferring Qualities. Integr. Environ. Assess. Manag. 13: 1038–1044. DOI: 10.1002/ieam.1954

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RECOGNITION

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Councilor for the Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society (GEMS) Board of Directors. Michelle Angrish was recently elected Councilor for the Genetics and Environmental Mutagenesis Society (GEMS) board of directors. GEMS serves as a focal point for regional genetic and environmental toxicology interests and has headquarters Research Triangle Park.

EPA Leaders and Learners Mentoring Program (LLMP). Michelle Angrish was recently selected to participate in the EPA Leaders and Learners Mentoring Program (LLMP).

Adaptation Design Tool Training at the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting Feedback. Jordan West and David Gibbs (ORISE) designed and facilitated a training co-hosted with the interagency Florida Reef Resilience Program (FRRP) on the Adaptation Design Tool on August 9, 2017. Of the 50 people in attendance were a number of well-respected academic scientists and, local, state and federal resource managers from Florida and many of the federal agencies. Feedback has included: a commitment by the FRRP Steering Committee to use the tool for their climate action planning process; a statement from a Broward County Commissioner that the tool will be useful for justifying State coral reef legislation for the Florida reef tract; and assertions from leading academic scientists in the field of coral reef restoration that the detailed, systematic tool process will support more robust evaluations for decision making.

Tina Bahadori, Sc.D.

Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment (EPA/ORD/NCEA)

National Program Director, Human Health Risk Assessment (EPA/ORD/HHRA)

PYS phone: 703-347-0283; RTP phone: 919-541-0855

Mobile: 202.680.8771; Email: Bahadori.Tina@epa.gov